

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

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A. J. LAMOURÉUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs, also of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price movement of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of rights and charters, a summary of the daily office reports from the Associação Commercial, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, SEPTEMBER 15th, 1888.

We should not like to be understood as being inimical to Minister Ferreira Vianna's charitable schemes for beggars, orphans and other dependent members of society, but it seems clear to us that he is working altogether too much at the wrong end of the problem. The sick, the crippled and the orphan must of course be provided for, but too much attention to beggars, vagabonds and criminals is very much like putting a premium on idleness, improvidence and crime. Very much, if not the greatest part, of the misfortune and need which the minister is zealously trying to succor, is the legitimate result of vices which society ought to rigorously repress. The man who spends his youth and manhood in absolute vagabondage has no just claim upon industrious people for support when old age or his vices have made him helpless. Charity may induce us to relieve his urgent needs, but he certainly can not expect us to take better care of him than the honest laborer is able to secure for himself by his own exertion. However this may be, the work initiated by the minister is an endless task and must naturally increase with the growth of population if preventive measures are not adopted. The principal effort, in our opinion, should be to prevent the increase of these classes and to reduce their numbers as rapidly as possible. The unemployed poor should be sent into the country to earn an honest livelihood by agriculture, schools should be created for the education of their children, and trades should be taught all who do not care to follow agriculture. Industrial schools are a prime necessity in every part of the country. If these agencies are properly developed, the next generation will not have so many paupers to care for as Minister Ferreira Vianna now has upon his hands.

We have so frequently called attention to the useless and absurd regulation regarding passports in Brazil that it would seem a waste of time and space to refer to the question again. The approaching adjournment of the General Assembly will perhaps permit the present cabinet to take cognizance of such questions as these, and we shall therefore venture to again call the attention of the government to the obsolete and absolutely unnecessary regulations still enforced by Brazil. As the requirement does not affect the revenue in any way, its enforcement is therefore of no advantage whatever to Brazil except for police purposes. In this last-named object, however, every one knows perfectly well that it never prevents the arrival or escape of any criminal. Within the

term of our residence in this city a considerable number of notorious swindlers, of foreign nationalities, have practised their little games here and then quietly slipped away without the slightest difficulty in the matter of passports. It is only when a painstaking, law-abiding traveller comes along that the regulation makes its vexatious power felt, for such people are generally scrupulous to meet all the requirements of the law. If the regulation requiring a police visé on passports were strictly enforced, or if it were instrumental in preventing the flight of swindlers and other criminals, then there would be less cause for complaint, but in reality the very reverse of this is true. It may be asserted that no criminal, with or without a passport, was ever prevented from leaving the country except through the action of some private individual who had legal cause for requiring his detention. In view of the fact that the regulation is practically useless, why is its continuance necessary? To strangers it is a constant source of vexation, particularly when travelling within the country. Many of them come here without these documents, and they find at once that they can not travel from one Brazilian port to another without them and without having the police visé before purchasing their tickets. While one may travel from Rio to S. Paulo, and back, by land as often as he chooses, he can not do the same by water without a passport and the police visé. Now, will some one tell us why this distinction is made? And if there is no reason for it, why is the requirement enforced? In truth, the regulation is purely vexatious and arbitrary, and were it not that the petty officials love the arbitrary power which it gives them, it would have been discontinued long ago.

The question of modifying the oath came up in the Chamber on the 6th instant, under circumstances which tended to greatly complicate the real issues involved. The new republican deputy from the 9th district of Minas Geraes, Dr. Monteiro Manso, on appearing to take his seat, declined to take the usual oath as it is contrary to his convictions. The matter was at once referred to the committee on rules which reported an amendment to the by-laws of the house excusing any one from the prescribed oath in case it is contrary to his beliefs. This amendment came up for discussion on the 10th and 11th, when a further amendment added the words "religious or political" after the word "beliefs" (*crenças*), in which form it was passed and Deputy Manso was permitted to take his seat. As the rule now stands, any deputy may decline to take the oath in case he can declare it contrary to his convictions, whether religious or political, from which we shall soon see the anomalous situation of a legislative body so irregularly constituted that only a part has sworn to support the crown, constitution and laws, while another part has sworn to nothing at all. In the matter of the oath itself, it ought to have been modified in 1881 immediately after the adoption of the electoral reform law which made non-Catholics eligible for election to the legislative assembly. That reform made the oath to support the state church inconsistent and reactionary, hence the clause in question should have been struck out at once. This was not done, and now it is suddenly brought up in connection with the political question of swearing to support the monarchy, and as the religious character of the oath is clearly indefensible, the two widely different issues are classed together and carried through with a rush. While the first is to be commended, we are not certain that there is any excuse whatever for the second. Every government, whether monarchical or republican, must strive to

protect itself, and the government which jealously acts upon this principle is entitled to respect, whatever may be its faults. The recent action of the Chamber in excusing any person from the oath in case his convictions are opposed to the existing form of government, is clearly a measure of self-destruction. An open and avowed enemy of the crown may now take his seat and carry on an active revolutionary propaganda in the halls of legislation. There is no government so free where this would be permitted. Some form of oath, or affirmation, should be required so that the legislator may be bound to support the state, the constitution and the laws. If a man can not conscientiously take this, then his place is in the field at the head of a revolution.

SOME weeks ago we took occasion to discuss the question raised by the commercial association of Porto Alegre in regard to the increased taxes on industries and professions. Since then the mercantile classes of Santos, Campos, Campinas, Macahé and numerous other places have resolved upon protests against these increased taxes, and in some cases to close their doors rather than pay them. Some of these protests are now before the government and a decision ought to be rendered in a very short time. Notwithstanding the opinion of Leroy Beaulieu to the contrary, Brazil is one of the most heavily taxed countries in the world. The economic conditions here are very peculiar and exceptional, and no just opinion can be given upon the economic state of the country without taking these into consideration. The French economist bases his opinion upon comparisons with various European countries, both in respect to gross expenditures and population, but neither one nor the other proves the points aimed at. Brazil is an enormous country in extent, only a small part of which is settled. A great part of its landed property is not taxed, and the great majority of its twelve millions population possesses no property, pays no direct taxes and produces nothing either for exportation or domestic consumption. Three-fourths of its revenue are raised through the custom-house, while four-fifths, at least, are derived from customs duties and the taxes levied upon mercantile houses and transactions. A great part of the population consumes but little of durable goods and pays nothing whatever toward internal taxes except the trifle imposed upon the tobacco they smoke. Hence they do not bear any share whatever in the taxes levied upon commerce. At a rough estimate, less than one-half, if not less than one-third, of the population contribute toward the payment of these taxes. Taking the aggregate appropriation for the current year, which is 159,500,000\$ instead of the 141,500,000\$ given by Leroy Beaulieu, the average expenditure per capita of effective taxpayers is 26½ milreis, while the estimated revenue from all sources, 148,000,000\$, gives an average of a little over 24½ milreis. This means an annual tax contribution of over 2½ pounds sterling from those liable to direct taxation and those consuming imported goods or producing exportable articles upon which a customs tax can be levied. According to the last financial report the total official value of exports in 1884-85 was something over 226,000,000\$. As the people live to a great extent on imported goods, the value of production for domestic consumption could not have been large—hence an estimate of 300,000,000\$ as the total value of a year's production is perhaps not far from correct. This represents an average of 50\$ per capita for that part of the population paying taxes, a great part of which—women, children, incapacitated,

habitual idlers, etc.—are non-producers. It will be seen therefore that fully one half the product of the country is absorbed in taxation, and that the weight of this falls upon the mercantile classes who are expected to recompense themselves from an impoverished and, to a large extent, idle population. The merchants of these interior towns, who are more closely in contact with the people, know that taxation can not be increased without serious prejudice to themselves. They are paying more than their just share of public taxation, and they are likewise carrying a heavy load of indebtedness against the people of the country. To increase the price of goods means either more indebtedness, or decreased trade, for the taxpayers of Brazil cannot possibly stand another imposition without serious prejudice. The opposition to these increased taxes on industries and professions, we are convinced, is not influenced by caprice, but by an honest belief that the burden can not be borne without suffering. It is an easy thing for officials and superficially informed economists to divide the aggregate tax by the total population (including men, women, children, sick, crippled, paupers, idlers and vagabonds), and then say that it is only a trifle; but when the exaction is carried into effect and the non-taxpayers are eliminated, the case assumes a very different aspect. Brazil is practically one of the heaviest taxed countries in the world, considering her production and percentage of taxpayers, and it is full time that this fact should be recognized. Instead, therefore, of increasing taxation, the true policy is that of decreasing it.

PRESENTATION.

On 30th Aug., the day after the steamer *Finance* arrived in port from New York, a number of the cabin passengers went on board and presented Captain E. C. Baker with a handsome and appropriate (as the Captain is only a water drinker) plated service for iced water, consisting of tray, water jug, ice pail and two tumblers, all the articles having the Captain's monogram engraved thereon, while the jug bore further a suitable inscription.

A written testimonial signed by all the saloon passengers was at the same time presented to Captain Baker thanking him for his uniform kindness and courtesy during the voyage to Rio. The subscribers for the presentation service were:

GUSTAVUS GUERIGON.
F. W. HOLBROOK.
JAS. H. MCKINNEL.
ALLEN C. NATHAN.
JOHN CHENEY.
F. R. ELTHAM.
GEO. Y. MCCracken.
ALF. C. GOMES.
JOS. H. CLOSE.
R. H. WOODRUM.
DANIEL WEIBRE.
J. ASPINWALL HOIGGE.
G. W. CHAMBERLAIN.
CHARLES E. KNOX.
MARCIA P. BROWN.
C. A. HOFFMAN.
L. A. & J. N. LANE.

RIO CRICKET CLUB.

RIO VERSUS CAMPINAS.

This match took place on the 7th and 8th inst. and resulted in favor of the home team. Rio having won the toss decided to go in, and at 11:45 sent in Messrs. Holman and Wadbrook to the bowling of Messrs. Kennedy and Richardson. In the third ball of the first over and before any runs were made Mr. Holman was caught at the wickets. Mr. Jones then came in, runs were totted up fast and not till the score had reached 41 did the next wicket fall. The next three wickets fell rapidly and with the score at 52, Mr. Cox joined Mr. Smith. Runs came fast and when the

lunch bell stopped the game the telegraph marked 92 runs.

Play commenced again at 2:20 p. m. but not until the figures had reached 121 did any wicket fall, and then Mr. Cox was caught. His partner was bowled directly after, having made 41 in excellent style and without giving a chance. Seven wickets for 121; the eighth and ninth gave little trouble, but the tenth and last was well defended by Messrs. Fitz Hugh and Estill, the former being the first to retire with the score at 147.

After a short interval Messrs. Holman and Morrissey opened the bowling to the batting of Messrs. Richardson and Ferguson. The Campinas eleven were not fortunate in their batting; Messrs. Richardson and Williams being the only two whose scores reached double figures; and the first innings closed for 58 runs. On the following day the visitors followed in and owing to the good fielding of the Rio team (a rare thing indeed!) the whole side were out for 44 runs, of which Mr. Kennedy contributed 25 in excellent form.

The Campinas Club deserves all praise for its pluck in challenging the Rio Cricket Club. The S. Paulo cricketers had agreed to come to Rio last June to play the old game, S. Paulo *versus* Rio, and almost on the eve of the days fixed for the match sent up a wire backing out of the engagement. The Campinas Club knowing how unjust it was for the Rio men to be always going to S. Paulo offered to play the game and sent up an eleven to Rio where their pluck and good will were fully appreciated. The delight the Rio eleven had in securing the now legendary "mug" was sincere, and pleasing to see.

Before leaving the ground the visitors received three hearty and well deserved cheers.

We subjoin the score of the game as well as of a "pick-up" match which took place after lunch on the second day.

Rio Cricket Club.

1 E. Wadbrook, c. Williams, h. Scott.....	20
2 W. Holman, c. do h. Kennedy.....	0
3 E. Jones, c. Skinner, h. Scott.....	21
4 J. Elworthy, h. Kennedy.....	0
5 J. Cross, h. Scott.....	0
6 J. Smith, h. Kennedy.....	41
7 G. Cox (Capt.), c. Routledge, h. Kennedy 30	
8 J. Morrissey, h. Kennedy.....	1
9 E. Benn, c. Booth, h. Richardson.....	9
10 H. Fitz Hugh, c. Kennedy, h. do.....	7
11 H. Estill, not out.....	8
Byes 7, Leg-byes 3.....	10

147

Runs at fall of each wicket: 1 for 0, 2 for 44; 3 for 44; 4 for 44; 5 for 52; 6 for 121; 7 for 121; 8 for 122; 9 for 130; 10 for 147.

Bowling Analysis

	balls	runs	maids	wickets.
G. Kennedy.....	125	55	9	5
F. Richardson.....	115	55	4	2
D. Griswood.....	20	14	1	—
T. Scott.....	30	13	1	3

Campinas C. C.

1st Innings.	and Innings.
1 P. Ferguson, h. Holman.....	0
2 F. Richardson (Capt.).....	0
3 J. Williams, c. Cox, h. do.....	2
4 G. Kennedy, h. Holman.....	0
5 W. Booth, run out.....	25
6 T. Scott, c. Cox, h. do.....	7
7 A. Routledge, h. Smith.....	9
8 C. Mathieson, h. Holman.....	0
9 A. Grey, run out.....	0
10 D. Griswood, h. Holman.....	0
11 T. Skinner, not out.....	0
Byes 4; Leg-byes 2.....	6

Runs at fall of each wicket: 1st Innings: 1 for 9; 2 for 24; 3 for 26; 4 for 27; 5 for 33; 6 for 43; 7 for 48; 8 for 55; 9 for 56; 10 for 58. 2nd Innings: 1 for 2; 2 for 13; 3 for 14; 4 for 23; 5 for 23; 6 for 43; 7 for 44; 8 for 44; 9 for 44; 10 for 44.

Bowling Analysis

	b.	r.	m.	w.	b.	r.	m.	w.
W. Holman.....	83	17	6	—	46	18	1	2
J. Morrissey.....	20	12	1	—	—	—	—	—
E. Jones.....	30	11	2	—	57	21	3	7
J. Smith.....	30	12	2	—	15	4	1	1

The "pick up" was played by Holman's twelve against Smith's twelve as follows:

Holman's team:	Smith's team:
1 E. Elworthy, c. Wadbrook, h. Smith.....	13
2 Mr. Fraser, h. Kennedy.....	3
3 F. Richardson, c. Estill, h. Smith.....	3
4 J. Williams, c. Booth, h. Kennedy.....	14
5 J. Cross, h. Kennedy.....	3
6 W. Holman, h. Smith.....	1
7 H. Benn, c. do.....	0
8 G. Gayatt, h. Kennedy.....	9
9 D. Griswood, c. and h. Kennedy.....	4
10 T. Skinner, h. Smith.....	0
11 G. Hime, h. Kennedy.....	0
12 E. Bramley-Moore, not out.....	0
Byes 6; Leg-byes 1.....	8
Wides 1.....	8
	49

Runs at fall of each wicket: Holman's team: 1 for 3; 2 for 18; 3 for 25; 4 for 30; 5 for 33; 6 for 33; 7 for 36; 8 for 44; 9 for 45; 10 for 46; 11 for 49. Smith's team: 1 for 9; 2 for 9; 3 for 32; 4 for 38; 5 for 40; 6 for 41; 7 for 46; 8 for 46; 9 for 46; 10 for 55; 11 for 55.

Bowling Analysis

	balls	runs	maids	wickets.
J. Smith.....	70	27	4	5
G. Kennedy.....	75	15	7	6
E. Jones.....	5	—	1	—

	balls	runs	maids	wickets.
W. Holman.....	25	16	1	2
E. Bramley-Moore.....	25	14	1	—
Mr. Fraser.....	30	17	—	4
F. Richardson.....	25	6	3	4
J. Cross.....	4	—	1	—

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

September 3.—In the Senate the session was entirely occupied in discussing the naval estimates, but Barão de Cotegipe found time to read a telegram from a planter, who had been assailed by a freedman, and who applied to the Senate for protection. In the Chamber, Deputy Gomes de Castro had a few more demands for indemnity to ex-slaveholders in present, and also complaints that the names of these mediators are not published in the *Diário Oficial*. The deputy for the 9th district of Minas Geraes, elected as a republican, was formally declared entitled to his seat. Deputies Chaves and José Marcelino spoke on the department of agriculture budget, but their remarks were of no general interest.

September 4.—In the Senate there was nothing of interest occurred. In the Chamber there was some talk of a determination to force a vote on the question of indemnity, which, it was supposed, would be against the government. This was avowed by Deputy Henriques occupying the floor during the time that such a question could have been proposed. Deputies Matia Machado, Junqueira Ayres and Joaquim Pedro spoke on the department of agriculture estimates and furnished their several opinions on matters affecting the department.

September 5.—In the Senate Sis. Silveira Martins and Candido de Oliveira had some sharp observations to make to the government respecting the removal of a judge in the province of Paraná. The budget of the department of marine as amended finally passed, and also that of the department of empire; both must go back to the Chamber. The discussion of the justice estimates was postponed until the minister could be present. In the Chamber Deputy Ruy Barbosa asked that a day be marked for asking the government certain questions relative to the late increase in taxation that has created much indignation in various localities. After a few remarks by Deputy Rodrigues Alves the estimates of the department of agriculture were finally passed, with the amendments. Deputy Bezanet criticised the minister of finance on many points, and read figures to show that without considering credits until the deficit in 1889 will be 38,000,000.

September 6.—In the Senate the premier replied to the attacks made on the president of Paraná for removing a judge from one district to another. Senator Silveira da Motta had also some remarks to make on the question, and it is to be further discussed in a future session. Its importance appears to arise from an alleged unconstitutional act of the president, and the opposition attempts to make the cabinet an accomplice. Senators Candido de Oliveira and Lima Duarte spoke on the estimates of the department of justice. In the Chamber, a very lively scene was caused by the newly elected republican deputy from Minas Geraes refusing to take the usual oath. On motion of Deputy Gomes de Castro a modification of the oath was accepted by the internal committee, which will, it passed by the Chamber, avoid all future difficulties, both religious and political. Deputy Bezaneta made some general remarks to fill up the time destined to the discussion of the finance estimates and Deputy Lourenço de Albuquerque analyzed the estimates of the general revenue of the empire.

September 10.—In the Senate Barão de Cotegipe presented a fresh batch of demands for indemnity from slave owners, and stated that he proposed to continue his advocacy of the rights of these despoiled planters until action was taken on the question. Visconde de Ouro Preto occupied much valuable time in a political attack on the cabinet and this obliged the premier to occupy still more in a reply. The minister of justice replied to preceding speakers on his estimates. A curious

remark was made; a judge somewhere in Goyaz was ordered by the neighbors to leave the town and the minister says that the trouble arose because he was not married. Barão de Cotegipe made a humorous attack on the minister of justice, and the late chief of police, Senator Avila defended his allegations to the increased amount asked for police. In the Chamber nearly the whole session was occupied in discussing the project to modify the oath requisite for taking a seat as deputy.

September 11.—In the Senate there was no session. In the Chamber Deputy Maciel reviewed the practice of parliamentary bodies, including New Guinea, as to the oath of an elected representative of the nation, and opposed the project presented by the officers of the Chamber to modify this. Deputy Zama repeated considerable time, and said virtually nothing; he considers an oath a species of joke. Deputy Nalven's attempt to insert a little regard for the constitution was not over-well received. The modification as to swearing in deputies was adopted; a deputy has no reason to obey any law, human or divine, if his religious and political opinions are opposed to it. The rest of the session was of no interest.

September 12.—In the Senate Sr. Silveira da Mota presented a project tending to harmonize the swearing in of senators with that recently adopted in the Chamber. The minister of justice and Barão de Cotegipe liquidated some personal matters, which appear to have excited the risibility of their audience. In the Chamber Deputy Andrade Figueira attacked the recent modification of the oath required of deputies and proposed its return to the committee; this was lost and the republican deputy for the 9th Minas district took his seat amidst applause from the galleries. Deputies Mattoso Camara, Lourenço de Albuquerque, Silva Tavares and Rodrigues Peixoto spoke on the general revenue estimates, but touched on no subject of interest that has not already come before the Chamber.

September 13.—In the Senate Sr. Silveira Martins asked whether the government had been consulted in regard to the negotiation of a foreign loan by the president of S. Paulo, and whether the operation had been authorized. The minister of agriculture replied that the loan had been authorized by the provincial legislature, in the same manner as interest guarantees had been authorized. He was surprised at the question of the senator, who demands autonomy for the provinces; the foreign capitalists are aware that the responsibility is provincial, and the speaker saw no reason for consulting the general government. Senator Silveira Martins replied that in effect the general government was the responsible debtor under international law. The question is likely to lead to lengthy discussions. The rest of the session was occupied by Visconde de Ouro Preto in analysing the various acts of the minister of justice, and by the latter in justifying these. In the Chamber some personal matters occupied the early part of the session, and the discussion of the general revenue of the empire by Deputies Afonso Penna, Manoel Ribeiro and McDowell consumed the balance of the time, the discussion being of little interest.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—There were 78 deaths in Campos during the past month.

—There were 120 deaths in Campinas during the month of August.

—There were 776 beef cattle killed in Santos during the month of July.

—The Minas immigration society is expecting to receive 2,000 immigrants during the current month.

—The province of Rio Grande do Sul received 5,330 immigrants in 1887, of which 4,355 were Italians.

—The July receipts of the Parahyba custom house amounted to \$5,622,465, and of the *condado* 6,473,890.

—Defalcations in the provincial revenue offices of Mandaus and Parintins, province of Amazonas, are reported.

—The city of Mandaus, Amazonas, is trying to look happy and prosperous under a double-barreled infliction of measles and small-pox.

—The president of the province of Pernambuco has recently authorized the publication of 18,000 copies of a descriptive notice of the province.

—An Italian was arrested in Campinas a few days since who carried a knife with a 40 centimetre blade—say 16 inches. Pretty good immigrant, that!

—The town of Macapá, on the Amazon, is suffering from both yellow fever and small-pox. Either one ought to be sufficient for an average town.

—The first meeting of the new S. Paulo Athletic Club took place in that city on the 9th inst. and was largely attended. The next meeting is announced for November 2nd.

—The *Diário da Rio Grande* estimates that the revenue receipts in the province of Rio Grande do Sul for the last half year will fall short of the official estimate by 1,000,000.

—The Santos municipal council has resolved upon the opening of another lazaretto, owing to an increase in the epidemic of small-pox raging there. The appeals to Our Lady of Montserrat do not appear to have been heard, and the people are therefore paying the natural penalty of their imprudence.

—Bananal, in S. Paulo, is to have a fine race-course, and it is safe to say that more money will be spent on it in one year than has ever been spent in the public school of the place.

—The August receipts of the S. Paulo postoffice were 12,252,650 for the city and 33,041,330 for the rest of the province, against 11,281,580 and 28,278,730 respectively in the same month of last year.

—The province of Minas has had an "immigrants' guide" printed in Genoa in Italian. We trust that the poor emigrant has been duly informed that, as in S. Paulo, the foreigner enjoys perfect immunity from small-pox.

—On the 1st inst. a billiard was found dead on the road to Rio Bonito province of Rio de Janeiro. From the examination made it appears he was thrown from his horse, fell on his nose and died from consequent hemorrhage.

—The Ypiranga monument commission reports an expenditure of 264,795\$747 up to the 31st ult., leaving a cash balance to their credit in the provincial treasury of 208,319\$712, besides the 300,000\$ in *apólices* recently advanced by the province.

—Lighting shows contemplation in the province of Sta. Catharina. It struck a house at Garopaha and the only serious damage was the destruction of a box of matches, and even so the box was left. We would suggest sending that box to the museum.

—A poor eating-house proprietor received a severe beating from two Spaniards in Pará one day last month. A complaint was at once made to the police, but he was easily informed that it would cost him seventy mil réis to prosecute the ruffians.

—The meeting of business men in Campinas to take action against the new taxes on industries and professions was held on the 2nd inst. It is estimated that 2,000 people were present. It was unanimously resolved to resist the collection of these increased taxes.

—A little family misunderstanding led to the killing of four persons in Parapecha, near Ouro Preto, Minas, on the night of the 29th ult. One of the assassins was killed while the other, who killed three individuals, was arrested. He is said to have killed 8 individuals!

—At a place called Gomvea, near Diamantina, Minas Geraes, a man recently thought he was haunted by an old woman his neighbor. To break the spell the old woman was beaten to death, her husband mortally and two of her children severely wounded by this enlightened Brazilian citizen.

—The city of Pará is still trying to attain the proud eminence of being the "Liverpool of America," but she finds it just a little difficult because of the world's antipathy to such perils as yellow-fever, small-pox, heri-berri, etc. Why can not the authorities of that city do something to stamp out these contagious diseases?

—It is a curious coincidence that the republican, separatist articles of "Nemo" in the *Diário Popular* of S. Paulo were suspended just about the time that a *commenda* was conferred upon Dr. Martin Francisco. Surely "Nemo" could not have been influenced by this tardy recognition of S. Paulo's just claims upon imperial favor.

—The Pará exports in July included 679,553 kilos of rubber, valued at 1,234,419\$208; 1,927,949 kilos of cacao, valued at 794,098\$949; and 14,393 hectolitres of Brazil nuts, valued at 83,824\$748. The exports from Mandaus the same month were 101,496 kilos of rubber (184,654\$600) 33,439 kilos of cacao (13,827\$306), and 1,835 hectolitres of Brazil nuts (11,922\$304).

—The sanitary authorities in S. Paulo are taking extraordinary precautions against the spread of small-pox. A patient was removed to the lazaretto a few days since in a special vehicle, during which process a few curious people were permitted to satisfy themselves that it was a genuine case, and then the attendants who had transported her from the house to the ambulance, called a public carriage and followed after.

—The people of Ceará are greatly exercised over the miraculous appearance of the Virgin Mary, the infant Jesus and St. Joseph at Canoa, in that province. The apparition was seen by children, and the priests are busily strengthening the hallucination and preparing to build a chapel on the spot. It is also said that the figure of Jesus bearing the cross was also seen. This is perhaps another reason for protecting and preserving a church capable of nourishing such absurd superstitions and frauds.

—Hereafter when Manoel Posa hears one of his babies crying at night he will get out of bed before striking a match. He did not feel like doing this last Saturday night, and the result was he was quietly awakened by a fire among some clothes on a chair by the bed-side among which he had carelessly thrown the match. And the worst of it all was that he had 700\$ in one of the pockets, a part of which was destroyed and a great part of the rest so much burnt that he will lose a large discount in redemption.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The August traffic receipts of the Leopoldina railway were 395,558\$365. Expenses are not given.

—A general reduction of 10 per cent. in freight and passenger tariffs went into effect on the 1st inst. on the Bragança railway, province of Pará.

—The minister of agriculture has very kindly resolved to permit the S. Paulo railway to increase the speed of its passenger trains to 50 kilometres per hour.

—The directors of the Sapucahy, Minas Geraes, railway notify that subscription lists are open from the 18th inst. for 4,250 shares, of 200\$ each, as it had been decided to increase the capital of the company to 4,000,000\$.

—At the meeting of the shareholders of the Santa Isabel do Rio Preto railway held on the 4th inst. it was resolved to increase the capital of the company to 10,000,000\$, by considering the present shares equal to 20 per cent. of the increased capital, or by the issue of new stock, and to authorize the directors to raise a loan of 10,000,000\$ at home or abroad, in debentures, the proceeds of this to be employed in paying off preceding loans, the floating debt, and in extending the line.

—A correspondent of the *Jornal da Commercio* writing from Ouro Preto, Minas, on 31st ult., has this to say about recent railway legislation by the Minas provincial assembly: "The following concessions were authorized:—1st, from Ouro Preto to Itabira; 2nd, the extension of the Minas and Rio to Passos; 3rd, a branch of the Minas and Rio towards Sapucahy, passing through Campanha; 4th, a branch of the S. Joaquim da Serra Negra to Musamburá; 5th, the extension of the Oeste line to the S. Francisco, with a branch to Itapicaci; 6th, another from Minas to Diamantina with a branch to Serro; 7th, yet another from Juiz de Fora to Monte Claus. Interest guarantees on increased capital were granted to the following companies: Lavras to Jacutinga, Itatiaia and Minas, and Sapucahy. The sum of the capital now guaranteed 7 per cent. is 33,400,000\$, in which it is necessary to add that upon which the province guarantees an equal interest in sundry railways in fee, or 44,034,000\$. It appears, therefore, that it advantage be taken of these various laws, the province of Minas Geraes with a revenue estimated at 3,667,500\$, will have increased interest guarantees of 77 per cent. on 77,434,000\$, or 5,120,350\$. Is it not about time to breathe awhile?"

RIVER PLAT PLANS.

—The police at Buenos Aires are now busily engaged in arresting and fining persons caught getting on or off trams in motion. The Argentine government is popularly called a republic and its people free!

—The *Express* of Montevideo is making a vigorous fight against the custom of carrying concealed weapons and the savage bloodthirstiness which characterize the natives of Uruguay and the Argentine Republic. Success to you, colleague! but you have got a long struggle before you. You can't get a selfish, suspicious, falsely-educated, sensual coward to drop the advantage of shooting his enemy in the back!

—Telegraphic news of the death of Gen. Domingo Sarmiento, ex-president of the Argentine Republic, at Assuncion, Paraguay, on the 11th inst., were received here on the 13th. Gen. Sarmiento was one of the most progressive and enlightened presidents which the Argentines have had, and to him is due, more than any other one man, the progress which that country is making in educational matters. He was over 80 years of age, and was engaged in some diplomatic mission to Paraguay at the time of his death.

—Our Montevideo colleague, *The Express*, took occasion on the 25th ult., to salute his Uruguayan friends on the anniversary of their declaration of independence, and to congratulate them on their "political independence." Very properly, however, our colleague fulminates to mention their personal independence and freedom from oppression. Uruguay is no longer ruled by Spain, but how much her people have gained through this political separation is a debatable question.

—The catholic colleagues of the priest Castro Rodriguez, who recently murdered his wife and child in a most barbarous manner, are trying to find a means of escape for the fleshly wretch by proving his marriage invalid, as the Catholic church claims jurisdiction over apostates as well as communions. It makes one's blood tingle to hear such a wretch trying to deflect the ends of justice in such a way, and may be accepted as a conclusive proof of the utter and absolute nullity of that church to occupy the dominant position accorded it in South America.

—Our colleague of *The Express* will kindly permit us to call "republicanism" here in Brazil, or in the River Plate, a "disease," or a "mania," or anything else that currently describes the ailment. We are too sincere republicans to wish to call these *maladies* by a name which implies political equality, freedom of conscience, speech and action governed always by respect for the similar rights of others, obedience to law, and a genuinely popular aspiration to preserve order, punish crime and develop political institutions by purely legal methods. Why do we see the so-called "republicans" of South America governed by principles such as these, then we shall find a better and more appropriate term for the political faith they profess. If we were fools enough to take men for what they choose to call themselves, we should be looking for halos over the heads of a great many.

LOCAL NOTES

—The quarantine visit at Ilha Grande imposed on Chilean shipping arrivals has been raised.

—It should not be forgotten that only this month remains for the exchange of the called in 10\$ notes of the 7th Estampa without discount.

—On the 7th the *Jornal* says Sr. White, the violin-player, sang a solo on his instrument. Sr. White evidently has a sympathetic touch.

—Evil tongues say the Emperor thought the Bendegó meteorite was too much reduced in trimming; in fact, that almost nothing but the name was left.

—How completely and successfully that terrible murder of negroes at Parahyba do Sol, province of Rio de Janeiro, has been covered with the dust raised by abolition.

—Senator Cavilho de Oliveira on the 6th said, "the time is not for words, but for action"; but he went on talking as if he had a whole legislative session at his disposal.

—On the 5th inst. the minister of agriculture addressed a rather sharp communication to the inspector of subsidized navigation companies, relative to the excessive charges made for discharging goods at northern ports.

—On the 7th the new edifice of the Banco Credito Real do Brazil was solemnly blessed by the parish priest of S. José. We have heard of banks being blessed by irate depositors and shareholders, but never before by a religious authority.

—After all blood is thicker than water. The man who calls himself a "hero" in the *Diário de Notícias*, comes to the aid of his brother's larks, which are fitted best for any other purpose than pensal.

—The great big banner [we almost wrote rag] that was suspended on the Sugar Loaf to welcome the Emperor, is to be deposited in the National Museum, the why or wherefore we decline to express an opinion on. Its associations will probably locate it in the geological department.

—The good people of Petropolis were so rejoiced at seeing the Emperor again, that they gave him a bouquet of artificial flowers. Are not artificial flowers and gold visiting cards being "run into the ground?" You can not even "spout" the card, if your name is engraved on it.

—On the 6th a man was going to take a tin of guano from a sick friend at the Misericórdia hospital. He got on the step of a tram-car, fell off, broke his leg, and he and the jam both went to the hospital. Moral—never carry jam to a sick friend by tram; take a trolley.

—On the 5th inst. the minister of agriculture informed the president of the province of Santa Catharina that the demands of that province for immigrants would be met when the government executed the contract for the introduction of immigrants into the whole of the empire.

—According to a Havas telegram of the 10th inst., President Cleveland has just presented himself as a presidential candidate. Our exchanges inform us that he was nominated at St. Louis about three months ago, but perhaps the Havas agency is better informed.

—Another distinguished citizen has left us. The artist, Dr. Pedro Américo, left for Europe to compose a great picture in commemoration of abolition. If distinguished Brazilians are leaving us in the proportion noted by the native press, there will soon be no one left under the flag but the vulgar herd.

—There seems to be an alarming increase in the taste for betting on races here. The hitherto were laid enough, but we are informed that young clerks, and even well-considered merchants, are dropping entirely too much money on the innumerable races that are now taking place. Roulette is bad, lotteries worse, but horse racing, as a speculation, must be considered worst.

—A system of city telegraph service is to be organized. Stations will be established in various parts of the city where telegrams will be received for transmission over the government lines, and those of such railways as are in communication with these. Mr. Slater cannot very well lay a cable in the Laranjeiras river, and how the government line will have a monopoly.

—According to official figures the concessions granted to various planters for the introduction of immigrants under contract during 1887, comprised 4,609 families and 5,160 individuals. During the first six months of the current year these concessions were for 9,624 families. Nearly three-fourths of the applications for families were from the province of Rio de Janeiro. The immigrants received under these concessions have their passages paid by the government.

—A circus rider of the feminine gender considered she had a right to ride—well, astride, in public and dress in masculine attire. Our easily shamed police, who allow materialistic romances of the most disgusting character to be shown in any window, calls the circus rider to account, and does not get the best of it either. Now, there is no law to prevent venerable looking ecclesiastics going around our streets in petticoats, and why should not extremes meet, and a circus-rider turn out in unmentionables?

—What is more suggestive of implicit hope, than a beggar seated on the step of a pawn-broker's shop? We saw this ourselves.

—An English exchange says that a pigeon thrown up in Wales reached New-York in four days. This is the worst case of sea-sickness on record.

—On the 8th there was an exhibition of articles manufactured by the lunatics at the D. Pedro II hospital, and the building was thrown open to the public.

—The quarter-master of the police corps disappeared some days ago, and so did some 4,000\$ that was in his charge. The officer has been caught, but the money is still at large.

—The proprietor of a hotel on Sta. Theresa publishes in the *Jornal* on the 12th a moving address to a guest. The inference is that the guest paid his bill without demur.

—The medical and surgical congress celebrated its first session on the evening of the 11th. The congress is formed of Brazilian medical men and will discuss matters interesting the profession.

—The ferry company proposes to shortly commence a passenger service between this city and Piedade, touching at Paqueta. It seems curious that the idea was not put into execution years ago.

—There has been a beautiful picture exposé in the Rua do Ouvidor recently. A young woman had commenced dressing, but after she had put on a pair of sky-line stockings and a bracelet, she fell asleep.

—It appears from some remarks in one of our local colleagues, that republicanism is stimulated by mothers, wives and daughters of planters, who have never had to do any work until the slaves were declared free.

—It appears to us that there are entirely too many unknown corpses found floating around the bay. Every case of "found drowned" should be examined with the strictest attention. Hardly a day passes that the body of some unknown person is not sent to the Morgue.

—On the 11th inst. Dr. João Carlos de Souza Ferreira formally assumed the chief editorship of the *Jornal da Commercio*. Popular with all, and with some 20 years experience as right hand man of the *Jornal*, the proprietors could not have made a better selection than that of Dr. Souza Ferreira.

—At the shooting match held on the 9th under the auspices of the "Club de Esgrima e Tiro," the directory wished the soldiers on duty to go in for a competition, but it was found that their guns were not in a condition for shooting, so the money offered was divided pro-rata. Edifying, certainly.

—All the candidates for honors in having secured abolition for Brazil are not yet catalogued. A Milan journal furnishes the name of a gentleman who has been active in the question. What surprises us is that, after the fact, there appears to have been no defenders of slavery in Brazil; as a concession we may except Deputy Andrade Figueira.

—On the morning of the 10th inst. the police found an Austrian named Zobe, near the Campo de Aclamação, in a pool of blood. He managed to make a declaration that he had been assaulted and robbed by two unknown men, who had wounded him upon his resting. He was transported to the Misericórdia but died shortly after reaching the hospital. What can the police be about?

—The cable this morning announces a collision at sea near the Canary Islands on the night of the 13th inst. between the Italian steamer *Sud-America* and the French steamer *La France*, resulting in the loss of 57 lives. The *Sud-America* was lost, while the damages to the *La France* were slight. The former was homeward bound with 261 passengers and a crew of 69; the latter was outward bound with 1,300 immigrants on board, of which 800 were for Brazil.

—Without any malice we may say that the articles signed by Mons. Beaulieu, in the *Gazeta de Notícias* of the 2nd and 3rd inst., appear very much like the report of a surgeon and physician upon a submitted case. Mons. Beaulieu has been asked to report on Brazil's financial malady, and either the case was insufficiently explained, or the French specialist's reputation is based on very flimsy foundations. We naturally incline to the first hypothesis.

—On the 8th there was inaugurated here a lodging-house for the poorer classes, which was organized, and very much to their credit he said, by four Portuguese subjects at an expense of about 2,000\$. The philanthropic organizers turned it over in the minister of justice, who at once christened the asylum "Our Lady of the Nativity." It would have been graceful, at least, to have acknowledged in its name, those of its founders. The asylum has now 40 beds.

—Independence day, the 7th inst., was celebrated with great enthusiasm. The Emperor, Empress, Princess Imperial and Comte d'Eu, with the court, attended a *Te-Deum*, at which the Bishop of Rio officiated. After this a levee was held, at which the diplomatic corps, committees from the Senate and Chamber, etc., were present. The Internuncio spoke as *day* of the diplomatic corps. There were parades of school children, salutes of artillery, and dynamite a-bomb-itions in abundance.

—What has become of that promise to have a census taken in this city?

—Decree No. 10,030 dated on the 7th inst. authorized the new German bank to commence business in the empire.

—We regret to note that our Argentine colleagues failed to put in an appearance on the 7th. Our visiting commission evidently swamped them.

—The audiences of Coquelini's farewell performances were not numerous, but are said to have been very select.

—A colleague says that Coquelini's secretary is to receive a decoration. It would be difficult to understand why, but we are now getting somewhat accustomed to these eccentricities.

—The first public prosecutor here knows Latin. The documents of a case were submitted to him recently for decision, and he at once passed them with the sentence: *fat justitia*. It seems a pity he had not added *ruin calam*, so as to round out the period, you know.

—That touching description of the conversations between Dumas and Coquelini as to the latter's accepting the principal character in *L'Etranger*, was twenty-four hours too late. Had the *Diário* published it the day before, we have no doubt that it would have filled the theatre.

—It appears that the Argentine Republic only asks two things of the French Republic. These are labor and capital. Now, we would be glad to compromise on exactly the same basis. If we could get some one to furnish us with money, and at the same time lend us the money to pay the wages, we would sign a bond to never do another stroke of work for the rest of our lives.

—We understand that some ten families of factory operatives, brought out from England to work in the Petropolis mills, near Petropolis, have been so badly treated by the police and Brazilian employees that they have been compelled to leave the place. Some have been very badly injured. The police appear to have been the aggressors. We hear an investigation is to be made.

—An affair that brings anything but credit to one of the capitalists of this city. Sr. José Augusto Laranja, has been reported by the police. A bill accepted by a firm here fell due on the 24th ult. and was protested for non-payment. Sr. Laranja was the drawer and endorser, and experts declared his signature to be counterfeited. He experts declare against him, and the acceptors say they offered to pay a part of the face value of the bill and extend the balance but Sr. Laranja objected, and appears to have perjured himself.

—We forgot to announce, in our last issue, the departure of Dr. Ladislau Netto, director general of the Museo Nacional, on the Hamburg steamer *Curtis*, to attend the forthcoming congress of Americanists at Berlin. We trust that our failure to announce this important event will cause no inconvenience to our scientific friends on the other side. We may now add, for their private information, that Dr. Ladislau is one of the most eminent Brazilian specialists living. Nominally he is the director of the botanical department of the museum, but practically he is anthropologist, archaeologist, Egyptologist and cartologist of that institution—and his knowledge is equally extensive and comprehensive in all of them.

AN IMPORTANT CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

On the 6th inst. the three Presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church established in this empire, viz: that of Rio de Janeiro, connected with the northern branch of the church in the United States, and those of Campinas and Western Minas and of Pernambuco, connected with the southern branch of the same church, met at the Presbyterian church in this city and, duly authorized by the highest courts of their respective churches, solemnly organized the "Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Brazil." The basis of doctrine and government had previously been adopted by the said Presbyteries and were solemnly ratified, adopted and subscribed to by the members present.

The presiding officer of the convention was Rev. G. W. Chamberlain, of S. Paulo, who among those present was the first Presbyterian minister ordained in Brazil, and his secretary was Rev. J. W. Daimery, of Jandiaty. The session prepared for the occasion was delivered by Rev. E. Lane of Campinas, after which Rev. A. L. Blackford read the constituting act, previously agreed upon, which was ratified by a standing vote. The following permanent officers were elected: Moderator, A. L. Blackford; Vice Moderator, E. Lane; Permanent Clerk, M. P. B. de Carvalho; and Temporary Clerks, E. C. Pereira and J. B. Lima.

On the evening of the 7th eloquent addresses of salutation to the newly organized Synod were delivered by Rev. Drs. J. Aspinwall Hodge and George E. Knox who represented the Presbyterian churches in the United States for this purpose, and by the Rev. Dr. J. C. Grahner, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, who had just attended the annual conference of the Methodist churches in Brazil. These discourses were rendered into Portuguese by Rev. G. W. Chamberlain. Letters of salutation were also read from the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, and from the General Alliance of the Reformed Churches recently convened in London.

In subsequent sessions the Synod organized the necessary committees for carrying on its work, and divided the churches under its charge into four Presbyteries: Rio de Janeiro, S. Paulo, Minas and Pernambuco. It was also resolved to establish, as practicable, a theological seminary in this city, for which Revs. J. R. Smith and A. L. Blackford were nominated professors. The Synod adjourned on the 13th inst., to meet in the Presbyterian church of São Paulo on the first Thursday of September, 1891.

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